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TAGS: [KNNP](#) [MNUC](#) [PARM](#) [PREL](#) [UP](#)  
SUBJECT: ISN LETTER OF THANKS TO UKRAINE PSI PRESENTER

REF: A. STATE 023568  
[1](#)B. STATE 069343

[1](#)1. SUMMARY AND BACKGROUND: On May 29, 2008, the United States hosted a Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI) Outreach Workshop in Washington, attended by representatives of 21 countries that have not yet endorsed the PSI, as well as most of the 92 PSI participating states. The workshop provided detailed information on the broad range of PSI activities and tools that have been developed for training, organizing for, and conducting interdictions of shipments of proliferation concern. Volodymyr Bielashev, Director, Arms Control and Military-Technical Cooperation Directorate, MFA, gave a presentation on Ukraine's 2007 PSI exercise "Eastern Shield" (copy can be forwarded upon request).

[1](#)2. ACTION REQUESTED: Embassy is requested to deliver under appropriate cover the following letter from Acting Assistant Secretary Patricia McNerney to Mr. Bielashev, thanking him for his presentation. There will be no signed original.

[1](#)3. Begin text of letter:

Dear Mr. Bielashev:

I would like to thank you for giving the presentation on Ukraine's "Eastern Shield" exercise at the May 29, 2008 Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI) Outreach Workshop in Washington, DC. Your presentation made an important contribution to the Workshop.

I believe the Outreach Workshop was very successful both because it informed states of the many ongoing PSI activities and because it provided states with concrete ways to improve their capabilities to stop WMD-related trafficking. The United States greatly appreciates the significant role that Ukraine plays in advancing the PSI's goals, including in outreach. We believe that we must continue PSI outreach, both to encourage more states to endorse the PSI and encourage states that have already endorsed to participate more actively. We look forward to continuing our work together in support of the PSI.

Sincerely,

Patricia A. McNerney  
Acting Assistant Secretary for International Security and  
Nonproliferation,  
Department of State

End text of letter.

[1](#)4. POINTS OF CONTACT: Washington points of contact on the PSI are Jane Purcell, e-mail: [PurcelJa@state.gov](mailto:PurcelJa@state.gov), 202-647-6186; and Carlos Guzman, e-mail: [GuzmanCS@state.gov](mailto:GuzmanCS@state.gov), 202-647-6320. Department appreciates Post's assistance.  
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